

Little League Baseball Incorporated  
Benicia Little League  
**2011 Major Division**

The information outlined in this document, summarizes and complements the procedures detailed in the Official Regulations and Playing Rules Handbook of Little League Baseball Inc., and shall be implemented by Benicia Little League.

**1. MANAGER / COACH SELECTION**

- A. All manager and coach applicants must complete and submit a Manager/Coach Application to become a candidate for a Major Division team. Managers are appointed by the League President and approved by the Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis.

**Little League Child Protection Program:**

All local little leagues are now required to conduct background checks on Managers, Coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to or contact with, players or teams. Individuals are also required to complete and submit a Little League Volunteer Application to their local league.

- B. NEW Major Division "COACHES" shall not be appointed or approved until after the Major Division draft to avoid "red shirting" of players through a selective coach appointment.
- C. After the Major Division draft is completed the manager must submit a request to the President to name his/her new coach or coaches. Coaches are appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis.
- D. Only appointed managers and coaches are authorized to be on the field or dugouts during games.
- E. The Board of Directors will consider the following factors when selecting managers and coaches:
- 1) Result of Little League Child Protection Program background check
  - 2) Results of previous year's coach evaluations
  - 3) Coached or managed during the past 2 Spring or Fall seasons
  - 4) Coached or managed at the Minor A division level or higher
  - 5) Set-up and maintain fields before and after games.
  - 6) Participated in the operations of League's daily activities.
  - 7) Assured team participation in League fundraiser activities and assisted in the operation of the event (i.e. hit-a-thon, etc.)
  - 8) Attended all required League clinics.
  - 9) Attendance at the Benicia Little League monthly meetings.
  - 10) Receipt of Manager/Coach Application and the timing of receipt.
- F. The appointed manager and coaches will be responsible for the actions of their team (players and fans).
- G. Only appointed managers and coaches are authorized to be on the field or in the dugout during games.
- H. Managers/Coaches should have submitted their Manager/Coach Application by **October 31.**

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- I. Each team will have one (1) manager and a maximum of two (2) coaches recognized by the League.

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### 2. TRYOUTS

- A. 2 tryouts will be held on two Saturday's in January at the Community Park: 12 and 11 year olds - 9-10:30 a.m.; 10 and 9 year olds - 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. A make-up, if needed, will be conducted the Saturday after the last scheduled try-out.
- B. Format is:
  - 3 fly balls to left field, throw to 2<sup>nd</sup> base
  - 3 ground balls to shortstop, throw to 1<sup>st</sup> base
  - 5 pitches (max) or 3 hits from pitching machine
  - Batter runs from home to 1<sup>st</sup> (depending on field conditions)
- C. Players are announced by player name, # and age only. "Walk-ons" announced by name and age.
- D. Managers are responsible for rating players.
- E. All new candidates for the Majors division must attend at least one tryout.
- F. Managers' children are exempt from tryout requirements, including the All-Star requirement to tryout.
- G. No managers or coaches are allowed on the field, in the dugouts, or in the score booths during tryouts.

### 3. DRAFT RULES

- A. Division is open to all registered players age 10, 11, & 12 who attended at least one of the tryouts. All 10, 11, and 12-year old players who tryout, will be in the Major Division draft pool.
- B. A player must attend one of the tryouts in order to be eligible for selection to a District All-Star Team. Any waiver of this requirement requires Board approval.
- C. Based on the recommendation of the Player Agent and President, and upon approval from the Board of Directors, a registered player at the time of the tryouts that did not attend the tryouts can be placed into the Major Division draft pool.
- D. The League will specify the maximum and minimum number of players by age per team prior to the Major Division Draft:
  - TBD – players age 12
  - TBD – players age 11
  - TBD – players age 10Each Major Division team shall have a total number of 12 players per team.

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- E. Brother/Sister Option:
- 1) If you plan to draft the brother/sister of a coach or manager's child who is going to be on your team's roster, you must submit this request in writing to the Player Agent two (2) weeks prior to the draft. The player must be selected in rounds 1, 2, or 3, or he/she is no longer protected by this option.
  - 2) If you draft a player and then want to exercise the "Brother/Sister" option, this option must be exercised in the **next round** or your option is lost and the player is open to be drafted by other teams. If your team does not have a pick in the next round, the option is lost.
- F. Manager players are drafted in specific round as follows depending on their age:
- 12 year old = round 3
  - 11 year old = round 4
  - 10 year old = round 5
- Where 2 players are of the same age (brother / sister or returning coach option), move up one round. Example: a new manager has two (2) sons both ages 11. They would be drafted in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> rounds, not 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> rounds.
- G. Trades for draft positions are forbidden.
- H. The results of the draft are confidential. For obvious reasons, the draft selection process (i.e. what round a player was selected, trades, etc.) should not be communicated to anyone after the draft is complete.
- I. Maximum of two (2) person(s) per team is allowed at the draft (only the manager and a returning coach, no new coaches are allowed at the draft).
- J. Draft order will be determined by regular season finish the previous year, with the worst record picking first, the 2<sup>nd</sup> worst next and so forth. The World Series winner will draft last and the loser will pick second to last, regardless of season results.
- K. In the event of redrafting or a change in the number of teams in the division, there will first be a "supplemental" draft of all returning players from eliminated teams. After all returning major players are drafted, the 'regular' draft will begin.
1. Draft order will be drawn out of a hat on draft night and the manager with number 1 will have 1st pick for the "supplemental" draft. At the beginning of the "regular" draft, the draft order will be drawn out of a hat for a second time and the manager with number 1 will have 1st pick in the regular draft.
  2. If a manager's child or children are returning to the major division, they will be drafted in the "supplemental" draft; otherwise, if a manager's child or children are new to the major division, they will be drafted in the "regular" draft.
- L. Major Division draft will be held on at a date, time and location to be determined.
- M. Each team is allowed 1 minute per draft selection.
- N. Team rosters will be distributed the night of the draft. Do not contact players until you are issued a team roster from the League.

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- O. Cell phones and other communication devices are not permitted during the draft.

### 4 TRADES

- A. All trades must be made through the Player Agent on draft night, subject to approval of the Board of Directors. No exceptions. Direct contact with the players in question, or their parents, is strictly forbidden unless authorized by the Player Agent.

### 5 PLAYER CALL UP PROCEDURE

- A. Players may be called up from the Minor A Division to replace players from the Major Division due to family moves, injury, etc.
- B. Players lost after Memorial Day may not be replaced unless the affected team has 10 players or less on the active roster.
- C. Only players age 10, 11 or 12 are eligible to be called up.
- D. Managers must notify the Player Agent of a player who needs to be or may need to be replaced immediately after learning of such. Failure of a manager to promptly notify the Player Agent of such vacancy will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Board of Directors.
- E. Injured players must be replaced if they are unable to play in an official League baseball game for 28 consecutive days or longer. The 28-day clock begins on the date of the first missed League game following the injury. The player call-up procedure will begin on the 18<sup>th</sup> day following the injury and will be completed (if necessary) on the 29<sup>th</sup> day. If the injured player is still not able to play in a game 28 days after the injury, they will be officially removed from the team's roster for the remainder of the season. If the player is medically released to play after the 28 calendar days have elapsed, the player and his/her family have two options. If the player is 10 or 11 years old, they can sit out for the remainder of the season and then return the following season to their same team; OR, if the player recovers from his/her injury after the 29<sup>th</sup> day following the injury and before Memorial Day, they can be dropped from the League and placed at the top of the current season waiting list. If an opening occurs on any of the Major Division teams, the player can be placed onto that team's roster for the remainder of their Little League playing eligibility. The League may require a physician signed medical release prior to a player resuming play.
- F. Player Agent must authorize a manager to search for "call-up" candidates.

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- G. Manager presents a written list of three (3) candidates in priority order to the Player Agent within ten (10) days. Player Agent notifies affected manager of 1<sup>st</sup> players' decision. If 1<sup>st</sup> player elects not to go up, the cycle is repeated for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and then the 3<sup>rd</sup>. If after the 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle no player is chosen, manager will be asked to submit an additional three (3) names in priority of selection and the process continues. The Board of Directors reserves the right to select a player and assign the player to the team roster.
- H. Refusal of a player to accept a call up shall result in the forfeiture of eligibility to the Major division for the remainder of the season and shall be reassigned to the Minor A team which subsequently loses a player to the call up in question. Example: Major A's first choice is to call up player Jones from the Minor A Giants. Jones refuses. Major A's second choice is to call up player Smith from the Minor A Mariners. Smith accepts. Player Jones is moved from Minor A Giants to Minor A Mariners. Minor A Giants then start the call up process from Minor B to replace Jones.
- I. Managers who interfere with this process, such as advising players not to go up are subject to disciplinary action from the Board of Directors, up to and including suspension for the remainder of the season. The Player Agent shall conduct all discussion with the players and families only.

### 6. SEASON SCHEDULE & PLAYOFF FORMAT

- A. Regular season schedule will consist of approximately 20 - 25 games, depending on the number of teams in the division.
- B. Winners of each division play in the "World Series" (best 2 out of 3 games) to determine the league Champion.
- C. Season is not divided into 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> half winners.
- D. In case of a tie within a division, head to head record shall prevail (best 2 out of the 3).
- E. Decision to cancel a game due to weather, lack of players or any other reason can only be made by the League President and/or League Vice President (of that Division).
- F. Games canceled due to weather should be rescheduled as soon as possible. Only the League President and/or League Vice President (of that appropriate division) can reschedule games.
- G. Incomplete games will be continued from the point in which games were called and must be completed before the same two teams meet for their next scheduled game. It is the responsibility of the home team to pick up the incomplete game score sheet from the location of the incomplete game and present it to the umpire and scorekeeper prior to the game. If teams do not play again League President and League Vice President will decide if and when the game will be completed.
- H. Only the League President and League Vice President can reschedule a game and/or evaluate a request for a game to be rescheduled.

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- I. There will be no games ended in a tie, please follow 6G above for recommended schedule of completion.

### **7 ALL STAR SELECTION PROCESS;**

#### **DISTRICT 53 LITTLE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT (11 & 12 YEAR OLD)**

- A. All players age 11 & 12 from the Major Division are eligible for the All Star team. All players from each Major Division Team will vote for a determined number of players (Board will designate number prior to vote for the pool) from their own team, excluding themselves and any 10-year-old players on the team. The voting will be a written ballot from each player and is administered by a League Official from the Board of Directors. The Player Agent will tabulate all the ballots and work with the team manager to break any ties.
- B. The Board of Directors shall establish the number of players to be selected per team, after the beginning of the season.
- C. Each Major Division Manager, President of Little League, Vice President of Little League, and Player Agent will then be allowed to vote for up to ten (10) of the players in the pool. (If there is a conflict with any of the three members of the board, that member will abstain from voting and another appropriate Board member will vote. Conflicts include, but are not limited to a child, grandchild or member of their team).
- D. Managers cannot vote for players on their team under any circumstances. Any eligible voting party cannot cast more than one ballot; for example, a manager who is also the player agent can only vote once, even though he/she may qualify under more than one set of criteria.
- E. The TEN players receiving the most votes are automatically selected to the All-Star Team. In the case of a tie for the 10th spot, all players involved in the tie are automatically placed on the All-Star Team.
- F. The All Star Team Manager will select the remaining players from the player pool consisting of the players who received votes the 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> number of votes including tie votes AND 1 (one) wildcard pick within the top 20 vote receiptents. This list of players will be presented to the manager in alphabetical order and vote totals will not be disclosed to the manager. The Manager must represent his reasons for these selections to the All Star Formation Committee. (Player Agent, President, Vice-President of Little League) The Committee must approve these selections.
- G. The Player Agent, All Star Team Manager, and President will then present the team roster to the Board of Directors for final approval. The Board of Directors decision is final and is not subject to protest at any level.
- H. The District Tournament roster can be announced approximately 14 days prior to the first scheduled tournament game or June 15<sup>th</sup>.

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- I. The District 53 All Star Tournament Team Manager is appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors based on "Letters of Intent to Manage" submitted prior to May 31<sup>st</sup>. Managers and coaches from the Senior, Junior, or Major divisions may apply. Once selected, the manager then selects his/her coaching staff (maximum of 2 coaches), which must be approved by the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors is final and not subject to protest at any level. Manager and coaches may be removed by the Board of Directors for any reason, at any time.
- J. If a player needs to be replaced on the District Tournament Team roster, only players from the original player candidate pool are eligible. The selection will be coordinated by the President, Major Division Player Agent, and All Star Team Manager, and then presented to the Board of Directors for approval.
- K. Replacement of Players is only required when there are nine (9) or less players on the active roster.

### **8 ALL-STAR SELECTION PROCESS;**

#### **DISTRICT 53 LITTLE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT (10/11 YEAR OLD)**

- A. Every 10 and 11-year old player from the Major Division will automatically be placed into the All Star Selection Player Pool. Only 10 and 11-year old players from the Majors Division will be eligible for selection to the 10/11 year old District All Star Team.
- B. Each Major Division Manager, President of Little League, Vice President of Little League and Player Agent will then be allowed to vote for up to ten (10) of the players in the pool. (If there is a conflict with any of the three members of the board, that member will abstain from voting and another appropriate Board member will vote. Conflicts include, but are not limited to a child, grandchild or member of their team).
- C. Managers cannot vote for players on their team under any circumstances. Any eligible voting party cannot cast more than one ballot; for example, a manager who is also the player agent can only vote once, even though he/she may qualify under more than one set of criteria.
- D. The TEN players receiving the most votes are automatically selected to the All-Star Team. In the case of a tie for the 10<sup>th</sup> spot, all players involved in the tie are automatically placed on the All-Star Team.
- E. The All Star Team Manager will select the remaining players from the player pool consisting of the players who received votes the 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> most votes or tie votes AND 1 (one) wildcard pick within the top 20 vote recipients. This list of players will be presented to the manager in alphabetical order and vote totals will not be disclosed to the manager. The Manager must represent his reasons for these selections to the All Star Formation Committee. (Player Agent, President, Vice President of Little League) The Committee must approve these selections.
- F. If an 11-year old is selected to the 11-12 year old District All-Star Team, he/she will play on the 11-12 year old All-Star Team.

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- G. The District Tournament Team manager and coaches, with the Player Agent, and President shall submit the District Tournament team roster to the Board of Directors for final approval. The decision of the Board of Directors is final
- H. The District Tournament Team may be announced approximately 14 days prior to the first scheduled tournament game or June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- I. The District Tournament team manager is appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Board based on applications received requesting to manage the team. Applicants must submit their request before May 31<sup>st</sup>. Managers and coaches from Senior, Junior and Major or Minor Divisions may apply. Once selected, the manager then selects his/her coaching staff (maximum of 2 coaches), which must be approved by the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors is final and not subject to protest at any level. The Manager and coaches may be replaced by the Board of Directors for any reason, at any time.
- J. If a player needs to be replaced on the District Tournament Team roster, only those 10 and 11-year old players from the original player pool can be considered. The selection will be made by the manager, coaches, Player Agent(s), and President. The Board of Directors must approve the selection of the replacement player.
- K. Replacement players are only required when there are 9 or fewer players remaining on the roster.

### 9. ALL STAR SELECTION PROCESS / IN HOUSE TEAMS

- A. The remaining players from the 11 & 12-year old Player Pool after the selection and approval of the 11/12-year old and 10/11-year old District 53 Tournament Team will be placed on the In House All Star Team.
- B. All 10-year old major players in the pool and not selected to the 10/11-year old or 9/10-year old District 53 Tournament Team will be placed on the Majors In House All Star Team.
- C. All Stars from each Division (American / National) will play an All Star game on closing day.
- D. Coaches and managers are selected by the Board of Directors.

### 10. MANAGER AND COACHES EXPECTATIONS

- A. Managers and coaches shall provide a safe environment for all players.
- B. Managers and coaches shall display good sportsmanship at all times.
- C. Managers and coaches shall demonstrate respect for the game, all players, and officials.
- D. Managers shall maintain open communications with his/her player's parents.
- E. Managers and coaches shall continue to develop their knowledge of the game and shall utilize positive techniques for communicating that knowledge to the players.
- F. No smoking or use of smokeless tobacco products is allowed during games, practices or other activities with the team. Violation will receive the following

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penalties: first infraction will result in a written warning from the Board of Directors, 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction will result in a one game suspension and 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction will result in suspension for the remainder of the year.

- G. Managers and coaches may not leave the field or dugout during a game to smoke.
- H. All players, coaches and managers shall shake the umpires' hand(s) AND each of the opposing team players' hands after each game.
- I. Players, coaches and managers may not leave the field of play once the game has begun without the umpire's approval. Ejection is at the umpire's discretion.
- J. No food is allowed in the dugout or on the field of play. ONLY Liquids are allowed.
- K. Only rostered players and approved coaches and managers can be in the dugout or on the field of play during a game (this includes practice in the batting cage).
- L. Managers and coaches are expected to assist League officials and umpires with disruptive fans when required.
- M. Managers and coaches are responsible for their player's conduct at all times during games and practices, including their conduct following an ejection.
- N. Ejected managers or coaches will retreat out of site and sound (at the Umpires discretion) and cannot participate in the remainder of that game, including post game activities on the field.
- O. An ejection of a player, coach, or manager will result in a mandatory one (1) to three (3) game suspensions following the ejection. The duration of the suspension will depend on the reason for the ejection and the manager's/coach's conduct following the ejection. **The Board of Directory Disciplinary Committee will review the ejection and establish the suspension duration.**
- P. A manager, coach, or player who is ejected for a second time in one season, will be suspended from the League for the remainder of the season.
- Q. A manager who allows a player to exceed the pitch count rules outlined by Little League will receive the following penalties: 1st infraction will result in a written warning from the Board of Directors, 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction will result in a one game suspension and 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction will result in suspension for the remainder of the year.
- R. Police the dugout and fields before and after each game and practice.
- S. The managers and coaches are responsible for field set-up and cleanup prior to and after the game. Each team is required to arrive at least 45 to 60 minutes early to set-up the field. Each team is also required to fill-in any low spots (batter's box, pitching mound, etc.) following each game. If one team consistently is not represented or fails to participate in the set-up process, the manager and coaching appointments may be revoked after review by the Board of Directors.
- T. Each home team will be required to supply one team volunteer to work in the canteen during their game. If the Home Team does not provide a volunteer, the manager or one of the coaches will be required to fill the canteen spot. If one

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- team consistently is not represented or fails to participate in the canteen volunteer process, the manager and coaches are subject to disciplinary actions, per the Board of Directors Disciplinary Committee, up to and including revocation of right to manage or coach in this and subsequent seasons.
- U. The Home team is responsible for the scorebook and the visiting team is responsible for the pitch count and scoreboard. Both teams are responsible for ensuring that the scorebook and scoreboard controller are picked up from office prior to the game and returned when the game has ended.
  - V. For the last game on Saturday and all weeknight games, the home team manager/coaches are responsible for assisting closing the fields and walking the canteen coordinator to their car.
  - W. Review ground rules and exchange lineups with the umpire during plate meeting prior to the game.
  - X. For Saturday games, a new inning cannot begin after one hour and forty-five (1:45) minutes have elapsed from when the umpire officially started the game, except a tie game, which can continue at the discretion of the umpire, to try to determine a winner. **The time limit does apply to the last game of the day.** A game should not be stopped in the middle of an inning if the home team is behind. There is no time limit on weeknight games. Umpire shall call the game based on darkness and/or safety concerns.
  - Y. The 10 run rule will not be used during the regular season in the Majors Division.

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## 11. AGREEMENT TO LOCAL LEAGUE PROCEDURES AND LITTLE LEAGUE RULES

As a manager of a Major Division team, I have received a copy of this document, reviewed it with the President, League Vice President and Player Agent, and understand the content and intent of this document. My coaches and I agree to abide by the procedures and rules set forth in this document and the Little League Rule Book. If for any reason my coaches or I do not abide by these procedures or rules at any time during the season, we shall forfeit our appointments.

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**Chuck J. Gray**

President, Benicia Little League, 2012